

## NEWS RELEASE

**INDIANA  
WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT**



Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor  
Ronald L. Stiver, Commissioner

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Media Contact: Kip Chase, 317-232-3396

### State Unemployment Rate Report:

## **January Revised and February Preliminary State Unemployment Figures Released**

Indianapolis, Ind.—Today the Indiana Department of Workforce Development released revised January and preliminary February state unemployment figures.

Ron Stiver, Commissioner for the Department of Workforce Development, stated, “These current unemployment numbers show Indiana’s economy continues to trail the nation and provide further support for Governor Daniels’ efforts to move both quickly and boldly in growing Hoosier employment.”

### **Seasonally Adjusted:**

Indiana’s preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for February was 5.7 percent up from 5.4 percent in January and up from 5.4 percent in February 2004. The U.S. rate for February was 5.4 percent.

For the month of February, Indiana’s Midwest neighbors reported the following unemployment rates: Kentucky, 5.2 %; Illinois, 5.9 %; Ohio, 6.4%; Michigan, 7.5%.

For the month of February, the state’s estimated seasonally adjusted labor force total was 3,201,800. The number of Hoosier workers in the labor force for February was 3,018,800, up from the total a year ago of 3,000,800. The number of unemployed Hoosiers for February was 183,000. January revised data marked Indiana’s labor force total at 3,184,000 with 3,010,600 employed and 173,400 unemployed.

### **Non-Seasonally Adjusted:**

Using the same data and reporting non-seasonally adjusted employment trends, Indiana’s February preliminary non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.4 percent. This total is up from January revised unemployment rate of 6.1 percent. Also, the February unemployment rate for non-seasonally adjusted employment trends was higher than the February 2004 mark from a year ago of 5.9 percent.

The U.S. non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.8 percent for the month of February. Of Indiana’s neighboring states reporting non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rates, Kentucky’s rate was 6.1 percent and Illinois’s rate was 6.5 percent. Ohio reported an unemployment rate of 7.2 percent while Michigan’s rate was reported to be 8.0 percent.

Indiana’s non-seasonally adjusted labor force for February was 3,163,700, up from January’s revised total of 3,146,900. Of February’s total, Indiana reported 2,960,700 Hoosiers employed and 203,000 unemployed.

## February 2005 Unemployment Rate:

The Indiana Department of Workforce Development is charged with continually improving the Hoosier workforce by assisting companies to create new jobs and improve employee skills. The agency offers a variety of training and educational grants, partners with Indiana's 27 WorkOne Centers, administers the unemployment insurance system, provides labor market information, assists employers with preparing workers for layoffs and closures and operates a statewide job placement service.

For more information on Indiana's unemployment rate, contact DWD at 1-888-WorkOne, or visit the web site at [www.workforce.IN.gov](http://www.workforce.IN.gov).

### Technical Notes:

- In calculating unemployment rates, two different types of numbers are provided. The first, known as the *non-seasonally adjusted rate*, estimates employment and unemployment without taking into account the effects of seasonal trends. In calculating the *seasonally adjusted rate*, or employment that follows more or less a regular pattern each year, holiday, summer and other types of seasonal employment is factored out of the estimate. These adjustments make it easier to observe the cyclical and other non-seasonal movements.
- Compiled in conjunction with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the State's unemployment rate is derived from a national survey of about 60,000 households. Of that number approximately 1,300 Indiana households are polled each month.
- The Household survey that calculates the unemployment rate is conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and is conducted during the week of the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month.
- Labor force is calculated as the number of people 16 years of age and older who were able and available to work.
- For most accurate analysis, please use revised data sets and not preliminary estimates.
- Unemployment rates for individual counties, cities and metropolitan statistical areas will be available on April 14, 2005.

## INDIANA VS. U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES February 2005

<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>Feb 2005</u>	<u>Jan 2005</u>	<u>Dec 2004</u>	<u>Feb 2004</u>
<b>Indiana</b>				
Labor Force	3,201,800	3,184,000	3,171,100	3,170,700
Employed	3,018,800	3,010,600	3,007,600	3,000,800
Unemployed	183,000	173,400	163,500	169,900
Rate	5.7	5.4	5.2	5.4
 U.S.				
Rate	5.4	5.2	5.4	5.6

<u>Not Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>Feb 2005</u>	<u>Jan 2005</u>	<u>Feb 2004</u>
<b>Indiana</b>			
Labor Force	3,163,700	3,146,900	3,138,100
Employed	2,960,700	2,956,000	2,954,500
Unemployed	203,000	190,900	183,600
Rate	6.4	6.1	5.9
 U.S.			
Rate	5.8	5.7	6.0